

Mammals from Ecuador and related forms.

By

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With one Plate and one figure in the text.

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The following notes are chiefly based on a collection of mammals which Mr. L. SÖDERSTRÖM, R. Swedish Consul in Quito, Ecuador, kindly has presented to the Nat. Hist. Museum in Stockholm. While I was working out this material, I had an opportunity of visiting London and British Museum of Natural History. My friend OLDFIELD THOMAS F. R. S. with usual liberality then gave me free access to the great collections in his charge, and thanks to this I am also able to add some remarks about different subspecies of the genus *Tayra*.

Midas graellsii ESPADA.

A young specimen from the Napo valley, where the species is stated to live at an altitude of 4,000 to 5,000 feet. I have had the opportunity of comparing this specimen with others in Brit. Museum and have thus stated the identity.

Blarina meridensis THOMAS.

THOMAS: Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist. ser. 7, Vol. I, p. 457.

Three specimens from Pichincha agree with THOMAS' description. This appears to be the most southern locality recorded, not only for the species, but for the genus as well.

***Felis concolor*¹ *söderströmii* n. subsp.**

A very dark Puma of medium size. The upper parts from head to tail are thickly overlaid with shiny black, which on the back is quite dominating over the brownish terra cotta which only shines through. The fur is basally blackish, the outer half brownish terra cotta (DAUTHENAY: Rép. de Coul. 322, between 3 and 4), and finally provided with long black tips. On the upper neck the black tips are not so long and consequently more of the reddish colour shines through; the same is also the case with the crown of the head where the hairs also are more erect and directed forwards. On the sides of the body and the neck the colour is duller, inclining to dark fawn (Rép. de Coul. 307. 1—2), overlaid with the black tips of the hairs. This colour extends over the anterior side of the fore legs and outer side of hind legs and feet. The posterior side of the fore legs is more reddish, similar to brownish terra cotta (322. 1, l. c.) without black tips. The inside of the fore legs is dusky whitish, partly suffused with dull buffish brown, which colour forms two faint cross bars below the elbow. The hairs around the pads of the fore as well as hind feet are black. A large patch (behind and) above the posterior large pad of all feet is greyish white with the dusky basal parts of the hair shining through. The face is dark due to the black tips to the hair. A greyish white spot above either eye. A black moustache from the nose to the upper lip extends half way to the corner of the mouth, but below the nose and this black stripe the upper lip is white. Some of the anterior whiskers are brownish black, the greatest number and the largest, even those emanating from the black moustache-area, are pure white. Posterior side of ears black with a grey spot near the base of the inner margin. Sides of head greyish with a suffusion of brownish terracotta (322. 1, l. c.); cheeks whitish with a slight similar suffusion. Chin and throat white. The fore neck is somewhat lighter than the palest shade of dark fawn (307. 1, l. c.). The chest between the fore legs whitish with a tinge of dark fawn, but further back the lower side of the breast has a colour, which falls between dead leaf (321. 1, l. c.) and rust red (318. 1,

¹ This subspecies is probably most nearly related to MERRIAM'S *Felis bangsi*, but as all Pumas appear to be only geographic subspecies of one and the same species the old LINNEAN name is retained.

l. c.). The belly is again lighter, almost whitish with a tinge of rust red colour. The region below anus is buffish. The tail has above the colour of the back, but the end is entirely black for 12—13 cm above and below. Otherwise the lower side of the tail is dull buff.

A young specimen of the same Puma measuring: head and body about 68 cm, and tail about 38 cm, is similar, although a little more reddish in its general colour. The black is more confined to the dorsal area than in the old male. The lower side has about the same distribution of colours as in the adult, but the white areas are comparatively larger and the »red» falls between buff (309.1) and dead leaf (321, 1). There are four dusky cross-bars on the inner side of the fore leg, the uppermost at the elbow. The hair round the pads of the soles is dark brown. The upper side of the tail is brown and its tip blackish brown.

The cranial dimensions are shown by the following measurements of the type skull:

	Adult ♂
Greatest length	172 mm
Condyllo-incisive length	156 »
Basal length	143,5 »
Occipito-nasal length	149 »
Greatest breadth (zygomatic)	117 »
Interorbital width	31 »
Length of nasals mesially	38,5 »
Greatest width of nasals in front	27 »
Width of nasals at the middle of their mesial length	11 »
Length of upper carnassial	22,4 »
From front of canine to back of carnassial	56 »
Distance between insides of m^1	59,5 »
Least distance between inside of carnassials	46 »
Length of bulla	30 »

■ Sagittal crest high but short, only extending over the posterior half of the parietals. Frontals flat between the rather strongly pronounced, arcuate temporal ridges. Nasals broad in front, but suddenly narrowed, »pinched in», so that the frontal process of the maxillary, above the bulging produced by the root of the canine, is markedly concave. The